Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

NWQI - Rock River

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: NWQI - Rock River		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:		Telephone:
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	Yes O or No O
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	Yes O or No O
2. c. Reducing impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides on land adjoining a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d listed waterbody, or other State designation)?	Yes O or No O
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a "non-impaired water body"?	Yes O or No O
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	
Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	Yes O or No O
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	Yes O or No O
3. c.Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	
3. d. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm water use as a result of changing to crops with lower water consumptive use, the rotation of crops, or the modification of cultural operations?	
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes O or No O
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	Yes O or No O
4. c.Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes O or No O
Soil Health: – Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes O or No O
5. b.Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	Yes O or No O
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation	Yes O or No O

Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	
6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	Yes O or No O
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	
Energy Conservation—Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	Yes O or No O
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the "EQIP Plan of Operations" result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions		
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the State priority category.		
1. Is the program application for development of a TSP-prepared CAP? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other State-level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.		
Water Quality – EPA Watersheds		
2. Does the application include core conservation practices that will be implemented within ¼ mile of a stream or water body that is threatened (i.e., receives significant runoff of excess nitrogen or phosphorous) and on the EPA 303(d) list, or listed as impaired with a TMDL in place and therefore not on the 303(d) list, or specified as a critical stream or water body authorized by the Regional Conservationist?	Yes O or No O	
Geographic Impacts		
3. Are more than 75 percent of the acres treated: i. Located within a NWQI watershed AND ii. Do they have at least one core conservation practice planned on them?		
Collaborative Efforts		
4. Are core conservation practices planned for the applicant's treated acres within an existing non-USDA water quality project area addressing the same or similar pollutants?		
Effort to address watershed impairments		
5. Does this program application include the implementation of a system of conservation practices which address the NWQI primary resource concerns?		
High Risk Soils		
6. Are core conservation practices to be implemented on offered acres with a majority of soil types that are classified hydrologic group D (high runoff) or group A (high infiltration)?		

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	
1. Does this application reduce sheet and rill soil erosion by the installation of agronomic practices?	Yes O or No O
2. Does this application reduce sediment or nutrient loss from the edge of fields?	Yes O or No O
3. Does this application make a change in management to increase organic matter or reduce erosion through the adoption of seldom used practices such as cross slope tillage, reduced tillage, strip cropping or the incorporation of grass waterways?	

4. Does this application address erosion control issues related to stream crossings?	Yes O or No O
5. Does this application prevent or reduce direct discharge into the waterway?	Yes O or No O

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices
Ranking Score	
Efficiency:	
Local Issues:	
State Issues:	
National Issues:	
Final Ranking Score:	

This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

	Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy:
Signature Date:	Signature Date: